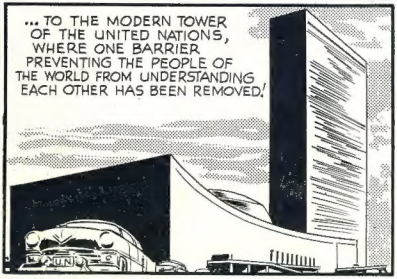
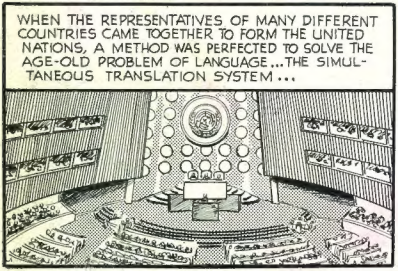
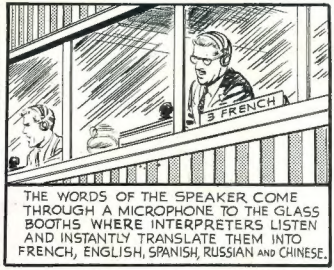
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
NOV.-DEC.
NO. 24
10c
BIG TOWN
NEW STORIES of TV's HIT SHOW!
AND HE VOWED HE'D KILL YOU, STEVE--WHENEVER HE GOT OUT!
THIS FLASH JUST CAME IN OFF THE TICKER, LORELEI! KILLER SEARS HAS ESCAPED FROM THE PENITENTIARY!

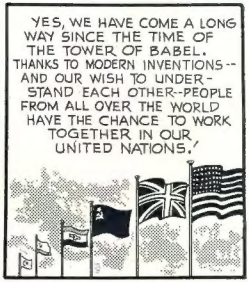
UNITED NATIONS DAY
October 24th


...TO THE MODERN TOWER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WHERE ONE BARRIER PREVENTING THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD FROM UNDERSTANDING EACH OTHER HAS BEEN REMOVED!


WHEN THE REPRESENTATIVES OF MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES CAME TOGETHER TO FORM THE UNITED NATIONS, A METHOD WAS PERFECTED TO SOLVE THE AGE-OLD PROBLEM OF LANGUAGE...THE SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION SYSTEM...


3 FRENCH
THE WORDS OF THE SPEAKER COME THROUGH A MICROPHONE TO THE GLASS BOOTHS WHERE INTERPRETERS LISTEN AND INSTANTLY TRANSLATE THEM INTO FRENCH, ENGLISH, SPANISH, RUSSIAN AND CHINESE.

DELEGATES--AND VISITORS, TOO--TURN THE DIAL IN FRONT OF THEM TO THE NUMBER THAT WILL CONNECT THEM WITH THE INTERPRETER SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE THEY CAN UNDERSTAND...


YES, WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE TIME OF THE TOWER OF BABEL. THANKS TO MODERN INVENTIONS -- AND OUR WISH TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER--PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD HAVE THE CHANCE TO WORK TOGETHER IN OUR UNITED NATIONS.

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

BIG TOWN

AT FIRST IT APPEARED TO BE AN ORDINARY, RUN-OF-THE-MILL FEATURE STORY--- THE "HUMAN INTEREST" TYPE! BUT HOW COULD ANYBODY KNOW THAT A SINISTER **CRIME** LURKED IN THE BACKGROUND--- A CRIME THAT WOULD EXPLODE INTO FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES, AND SEND STEVE WILSON, OF THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS**, PLUNGING INTO ONE OF HIS MOST PUZZLING ADVENTURES, IN THE BIZARRE **BIG TOWN** STORY OF...

LAST STOP--- MURDER!

BIG TOWN, No. 24, Nov.-Dec., 1954. Published bi-monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted 1953 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

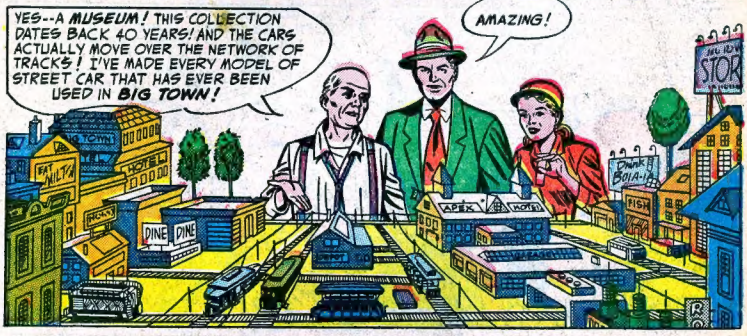
A STREET CAR RIDE ACROSS TOWN--AN ORDINARY EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE--BUT STEVE WILSON, OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS, IS UNAWARE OF THE CHAIN REACTION OF TROUBLED EVENTS SUCH A RIDE WILL PROMPT...
WE'RE NEAR THE END OF THE LINE, LORELEI!
LAST STOP! ALL OUT!
THIS IS REALLY THE LAST STOP!
AFTER FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE IN BIG TOWN--THE STREET CARS ARE BEING REMOVED TO BE REPLACED BY BUSES!
STAND BY YOUR CAR, MR. FARRAGUT! THAT'S IT!
YOU SEE, LORELEI, I THINK THERE'S A GOOD FEATURE STORY IN THE CONDUCTOR, MATT FARRAGUT! PEOPLE THINK LITTLE OF WHAT HAPPENS TO THE EMPLOYEES OF THE LINE, ONCE IT IS TORN DOWN!
THAT'S RIGHT, STEVE! JUST WHAT WILL THE MEN DO? WHAT WILL THE CONDUCTOR, MR. FARRAGUT DO, FOR EXAMPLE?
FARRAGUT HAS BEEN ON THIS RUN FOR 40 YEARS! HE USED TO DRIVE THE HORSE-DRAWN STREET CARS! NOW THIS--HIS LAST STOP!
SO, I'VE ARRANGED TO SPEND 24 HOURS WITH FARRAGUT AND DO A STORY ON WHAT HIS PLANS ARE--HIS THOUGHTS, AND--WELL, FIND OUT WHAT HE INTENDS TO DO AFTER A 40-YEAR CAREER HAS COME TO AN ABRUPT END!
ENTER FRONT DOOR
EXIT
A MOMENT LATER...
MY LAST LOOK AT HER, MR. WILSON! IT--UH--SORT OF MAKES ME ALL TIGHT INSIDE TO THINK THAT I'M NEVER GOING TO MAKE THE RUN AGAIN--THAT IT'S ALL OVER!
WE'LL DRIVE YOU HOME, MR. FARRAGUT--THEN PERHAPS WE CAN TALK!
DRESS

STEVE'S CAR THEN WINDS ITS WAY THROUGH CITY STREETS, TO A HOME NEAR THE WATER FRONT...
NOT MUCH OF A PLACE, MR. WILSON, BUT I'VE LIVED HERE COMFORTABLY FOR 40 YEARS... SINCE I WAS WITH THE LINE -- COME IN!
PRESS
JOE'S
SUDDENLY AS THEY ENTER, THE ROAR OF GUNFIRE!
GET DOWN, FARRAGUT!
RAT-TAT-TAT
BAM
CRACK!
BLAM
BLAM!
IT'S WILSON, OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS! LET'S BEAT IT!
AND INSIDE...
BUT WHO WERE THOSE MEN? WHAT DID THEY WANT?
WAIT HERE WITH FARRAGUT, LORELEI! HE'S SHAKEN UP!
WHAT IS IT, MR. WILSON?
I DON'T KNOW YET, OFFICER! COME ON -- FOLLOW ME!
POLICE
POLICE
FIGHTS

THEY RAN FROM THE CONDUCTOR'S HOUSE! I SAW THEM HEADING THIS WAY!
MR. WILSON--THE IRON BALL! LOOK OUT!
OPEN FIRE ON 'EM!
RAT-T TAT-TAT
BAM! BAM! BAM!
WHOOOSH
BAM!
BAM!
PING! BAM!
PING!
PING! PING!
THEN, UPON SEEING A SMALL POWER LAUNCH PULL ALONGSIDE THE DOCKS, THE CROOKS MAKE A BREAK FROM THE DERRICK...
THERE'S OUR BOAT--IT FINALLY GOT HERE! C'MON! RUN FOR IT!
BAM!
GET THIS SCOW GOIN'! WHAT KEPT YOU ANYWAY?
WE HAD TO TAKE THE LONG WAY AROUND--TWO POLICE BOATS!
RAT-TAT-TAT!
BAM!
DOLPHINE
NO USE--THEY'RE OUT OF RANGE NOW! I'LL PUT A CALL THROUGH TO THE HARBOR POLICE! MAYBE THEY CAN INTERCEPT 'EM!
THANKS, BOYS! NOW I'M GOING BACK TO FARRAGUT'S PLACE AND SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!

LATER, AT THE CONDUCTOR'S HOUSE...
AND YOU HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST NOTION AS TO WHAT THOSE GUNMEN WERE DOING HERE IN YOUR HOME?
NO, MR. WILSON--UNLESS...UNLESS, WAIT A MOMENT! COME IN TO THIS ROOM!

GOOD GOSH! WHAT IS THIS?
WHY, IT'S A TOY CITY--A SORT OF ONE-MAN STREET CAR MUSEUM!

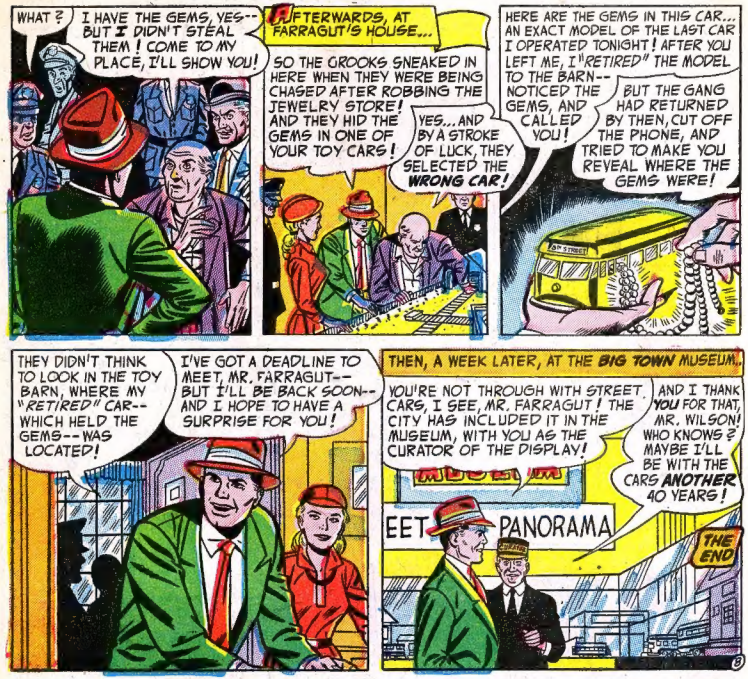

YES--A MUSEUM! THIS COLLECTION DATES BACK 40 YEARS! AND THE CARS ACTUALLY MOVE OVER THE NETWORK OF TRACKS! I'VE MADE EVERY MODEL OF STREET CAR THAT HAS EVER BEEN USED IN BIG TOWN!
AMAZING!
DINE
APEX

THIS DISPLAY COULD BE VERY VALUABLE! MAYBE THIS IS WHAT THEY WERE AFTER!
I THOUGHT THE SAME THING--AT FIRST! BUT I CAN TELL AT A QUICK GLANCE THAT NOTHING HAS BEEN REMOVED! IN FACT, NOTHING IN MY HOUSE IS MISSING!

WE'RE GOING OVER TO THE EDITORIAL OFFICE--WOULD YOU CARE TO COME ALONG, MR. FARRAGUT?
NO, THANKS--I'M NOT AFRAID! I'LL STAY HERE WITH MY STREET CARS!

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...
YOU DON'T THINK MR. FARRAGUT HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THOSE CROOKS, DO YOU, STEVE?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT, LORELEI! YET--WHAT WERE THEY DOING IN FARRAGUT'S HOUSE?
SAFE
AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS BUILDING...
LISTEN TO THIS, LORRY! A FLASH JUST CAME IN--THERE WAS A JEWELRY STORE ROBBED TONIGHT ABOUT FOUR BLOCKS FROM FARRAGUT'S PLACE! THE JEWELER WAS SLAIN AND THE CROOKS ESCAPED WITH $50,000 WORTH OF GEMS!
BUT WHAT CONNECTION WOULD THAT HAVE WITH THE MEN IN FARRAGUT'S PLACE?
I DON'T KNOW--BUT THE ROBBERY OCCURRED ONLY 15 MINUTES BEFORE WE GOT HOME WITH FARRAGUT! THERE'S THE PHONE...
RRING!
MR. WILSON--THIS IS MATT FARRAGUT! LISTEN, I'VE GOT SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO...
UNHHH--
HELLO! HELLO! IT'S FARRAGUT! AND SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM! WE'D BETTER GET OVER TO HIS PLACE AT ONCE!
MINUTES LATER, AT THE CONDUCTOR'S HOME...
MR. FARRAGUT'S GONE, STEVE!
YES--AND LOOK AT THE DISPLAY! SOMEONE HAS TRIED TO TAKE IT APART!
NOW WE'VE GOT A DOUBLE MYSTERY! WHAT WERE THOSE CROOKS DOING HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE? AND WHAT HAPPENED TO FARRAGUT WHEN HE ATTEMPTED TO PHONE YOU?
LORELEI--I THINK I'VE GOT IT! LOOK!
SEE THE TINY MODEL WITH THE 8TH STREET SIGN? IT'S BEEN PLACED ON CHESTER STREET, NEAR GRANT!
MAYBE FARRAGUT HAS TRIED TO GIVE A CLUE WHERE HE IS--WHERE HE'S BEEN TAKEN!
CHESTER
GRANT
8TH STREET

HURRIEDLY, A PHONE CALL IS PUT THROUGH TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AND...
INSPECTOR CALLAHAN TOLD ME HE'S GOING TO THROW A DRAGNET AROUND THE CORNER OF CHESTER AND GRANT! DOLLARS TO DOUGHNUTS SAYS THAT'S WHERE FARRAGUT IS! AND THAT'S WHERE THE ANSWER IS TO THIS WHOLE MYSTERY!
ARRIVING AT CHESTER AND GRANT, THEY SEE SQUAD CARS GATHERING SILENTLY...
THE BOYS HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH ALL THE BUILDINGS, STEVE! I THINK WE'VE LOCATED FARRAGUT--AND THE GANG! THE SECOND FLOOR--IN THIS BUILDING!
ALL RIGHT, INSPECTOR--LET'S GO IN!
THEN...
YA BETTER TALK, POP! WHERE IS THAT ICE? WE AIN'T GONNA BE PATIENT MUCH LONGER!
A SUDDEN RUSH AT THE DOOR, AND...
CRRAUH!
UGH!
DON'T HIT, FARRAGUT!
BAM!
BLAM!
MY HAND!
SUDDENLY THE GUNFIRE CEASES..
EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT, MR. FARRAGUT! WHAT A BREAK THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO GIVE US YOUR LOCATION WITH THE STREET CAR DISPLAY!
YES--I OVERHEARD THEM SAY WHERE THEY WERE TAKING ME! IT WAS MY ONLY HOPE... AND IT WORKED! I'VE GOT THOSE STOLEN GEMS, MR. WILSON!


WHAT ?
I HAVE THE GEMS, YES-- BUT I DIDN'T STEAL THEM ! COME TO MY PLACE, I'LL SHOW YOU!
AFTERWARDS, AT FARRAGUT'S HOUSE...
SO THE CROOKS SNEAKED IN HERE WHEN THEY WERE BEING CHASED AFTER ROBBING THE JEWELRY STORE! AND THEY HID THE GEMS IN ONE OF YOUR TOY CARS!
YES... AND BY A STROKE OF LUCK, THEY SELECTED THE WRONG CAR!
HERE ARE THE GEMS IN THIS CAR... AN EXACT MODEL OF THE LAST CAR I OPERATED TONIGHT! AFTER YOU LEFT ME, I "RETIRED" THE MODEL TO THE BARN-- NOTICED THE GEMS, AND CALLED YOU!
BUT THE GANG HAD RETURNED BY THEN, CUT OFF THE PHONE, AND TRIED TO MAKE YOU REVEAL WHERE THE GEMS WERE!
THEY DIDN'T THINK TO LOOK IN THE TOY BARN, WHERE MY "RETIRED" CAR-- WHICH HELD THE GEMS-- WAS LOCATED!
I'VE GOT A DEADLINE TO MEET, MR. FARRAGUT-- BUT I'LL BE BACK SOON-- AND I HOPE TO HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU!
THEN, A WEEK LATER, AT THE BIG TOWN MUSEUM...
YOU'RE NOT THROUGH WITH STREET CARS, I SEE, MR. FARRAGUT ! THE CITY HAS INCLUDED IT IN THE MUSEUM, WITH YOU AS THE CURATOR OF THE DISPLAY!
AND I THANK YOU FOR THAT, MR. WILSON! WHO KNOWS ? MAYBE I'LL BE WITH THE CARS ANOTHER 40 YEARS!
EET PANORAMA
THE END

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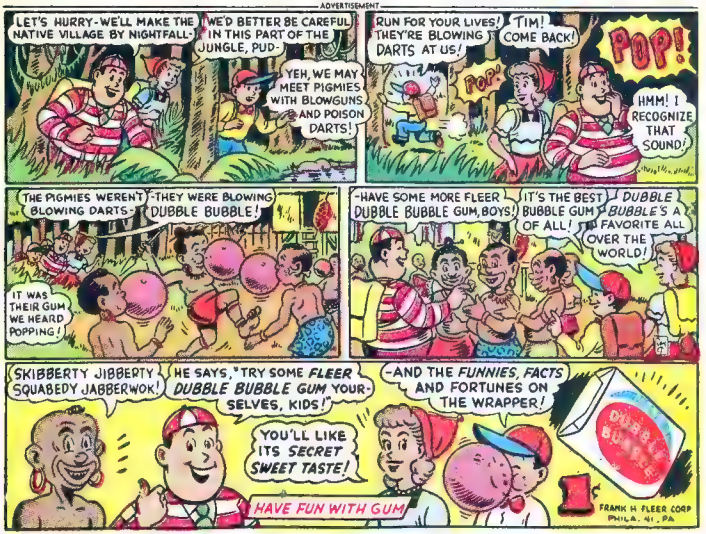
LET'S HURRY-WE'LL MAKE THE NATIVE VILLAGE BY NIGHTFALL!
WE'D BETTER BE CAREFUL IN THIS PART OF THE JUNGLE, PUD-
YEH, WE MAY MEET PIGMIES WITH BLOWGUNS AND POISON DARTS!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THEY'RE BLOWING DARTS AT US!
TIM! COME BACK!
POP!
POP!
HMM! I RECOGNIZE THAT SOUND!
THE PIGMIES WEREN'T BLOWING DARTS-
-THEY WERE BLOWING DUBBLE BUBBLE!
IT WAS THEIR GUM WE HEARD POPPING!
-HAVE SOME MORE FLEER DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM, BOYS!
IT'S THE BEST BUBBLE GUM OF ALL!
DUBBLE BUBBLE'S A FAVORITE ALL OVER THE WORLD!
SKIBBERTY JIBBERTY SQUABEDY JABBERWOK!
HE SAYS, "TRY SOME FLEER DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM YOURSELVES, KIDS!"
YOU'LL LIKE ITS SECRET SWEET TASTE!
-AND THE FUNNIES, FACTS AND FORTUNES ON THE WRAPPER!
HAVE FUN WITH GUM
FRANK H. FLEER CORP PHILA., 41, PA.

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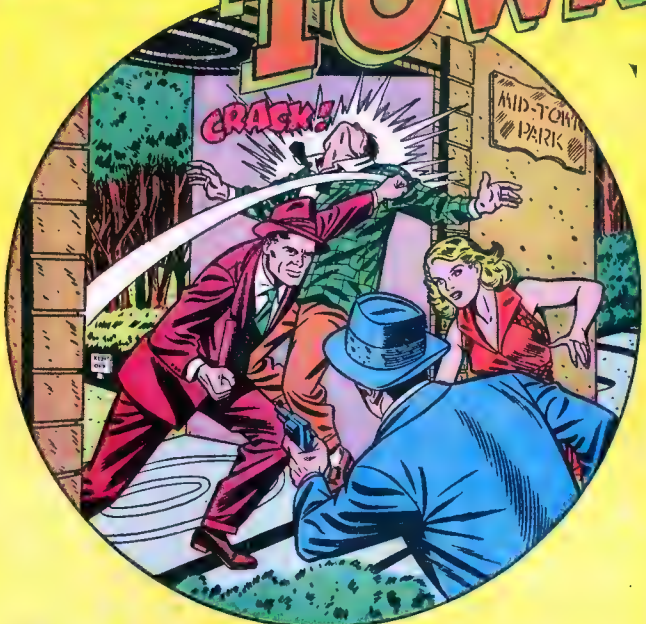
BIG TOWN

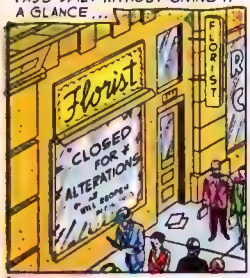


IN AN EFFORT TO BOOST CIRCULATION FOR THE *ILLUSTRATED PRESS*, NEWSMAN STEVE WILSON WORKED OUT A SENSATIONAL READER-BUILDING CONTEST! BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE DOUGHTY NEWSHAWK, HIS EFFORTS INTERFERED WITH CERTAIN WELL-LAID CRIMINAL PLANS--PLUNGING HIM INTO A WHIRLPOOL OF PERILOUS ACTION! IN...

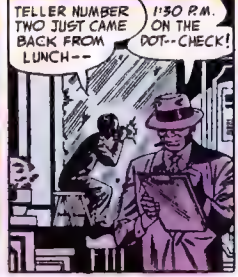
THE PUZZLE OF THE BURGLAR-PROOF BANK

BIG TOWN

ON ONE OF THE BUSIEST STREETS IN *BIG TOWN* IS A STORE FRONT THAT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE PASS DAILY WITHOUT GIVING IT A GLANCE...



BUT INSIDE--UNKNOWN TO THE PASSERS-BY--A STRANGE SORT OF ACTIVITY IS TAKING PLACE..



DAY AND NIGHT, THE ODD OPERATION BEHIND THE INNOCENT-LOOKING STORE FRONT CONTINUES...

ON THE WALL OF THE FORMER FLOWER SHOP A LARGE CHART MARKS THE MOVEMENTS OF VARIOUS TYPES OF PEOPLE--ALL UNAWARE OF THE CEASELESS SCRUTINY...

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2 ARRIVALS	COLUMN 3 DEPARTURES	REMARKS
DAY COP ON BEAT	EVERY 2 hrs	3 MINUTES LATER	LOOKS TOUGH
NIGHT COP ON BEAT	EVERY 1½ hrs	5 MINUTES LATER	.....
TELLER # 1	8:45 A.M.	3:30 P.M.	NEAR-SIGHTED
TELLER # 2	8:50 A.M.	3:40 P.M.	.....
BANK GUARDS	8:20 A.M.	4:00 P.M.	.....
WATCHMAN	7:00 P.M.	7: A.M.	DOESN'T SMOKE

AND FINALLY ONE MORNING, TWO MEN TAKE A "*STROLL*" DOWN THE STREET...

THEY SAID THAT THIS WAS ONE BANK THAT COULDN'T BE CRACKED, JAMIE!
HA HA...THAT WAS PRACTICALLY LIKE A *DARE* TO YOU, WASN'T IT, WIZARD?
INDUS TRIAL
276
BIG TO
BA

DENTIST H.K. SMITH IS GOING ON HIS VACATION THIS MORNING--RIGHT ON SCHEDULE!

--AND WE MOVE INTO HIS OFFICE TONIGHT--ALSO ON SCHEDULE!

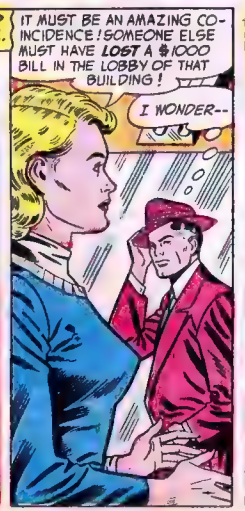
THAT BANK'S AS GOOD AS TAKEN! DURING THE PAST SIX WEEKS, WE'VE COVERED EVERY POSSIBLE ANGLE! NOW WE'RE ALL SET--NOTHING CAN STOP US NOW!
Nothing? THAT'S TAKING IN A LOT OF TERRITORY, WIZARD! WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IN THE NEXT 24 HOURS -- DESPITE YOUR WELL-LAID PLANS! FOR INSTANCE ...
5¢ ILLUSTRATED PRESS
YOU MAY BE A LUCKY WINNER!
EACH DAY IN THE COLUMNS OF THIS PAPER, HUNDREDS OF ADDRESSES APPEAR! IN TEN OF THOSE ADDRESSES, A $1000 BILL HAS BEEN HIDDEN! YOU FIND IT--YOU KEEP IT! MORE LUCKY ADDRESSES WILL BE ADDED DAILY--SO BE SURE TO BUY YOUR COPY OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS EVERY DAY!
5¢
AND IN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER McGRATH'S OFFICE...
CONGRATULATIONS, STEVE AND LORELEI! THE WHOLE TOWN IS TALKING ABOUT OUR NEW CONTEST! IT'S AN EXCELLENT CIRCULATION-BUILDING STUNT!
THANKS, MR. McGRATH! BUT THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING!
LORELEI AND I ARE GOING TO DO FOLLOW-UPS ON THE LUCKY FINDERS--LEARN WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO WITH THE MONEY--RUN PICTURES OF THEM--AND SO ON!
SWELL! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, YOU TWO!
5¢ ILLUSTRAT
YOU MA
THE NEXT DAY...
HERE IT IS! 276 MAIN STREET--MENTIONED ON PAGE THREE!
ONE OF THOSE #1000 BILLS MAY BE HIDDEN IN HERE, HARVEY! HURRY!
276
WIZARD, THAT CRAZY CONTEST OF STEVE WILSON'S IS GUMMING UP OUR WHOLE SET-UP! MOBS OF PEOPLE POKING THROUGH THAT BUILDING!
WE'VE GOT TO TAKE ACTION, JAMIE--FAST!

NOW, WIZARD? WHAT CAN WE DO?
ER--COME WITH ME, JAMIE-BOY--AND I'LL SHOW YOU THAT STEVE WILSON'S NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH IDEAS!

NOT LONG AFTERWARD...
I GOT IT! A $1000 BILL--IN THE PAGES OF THIS TELEPHONE BOOK!
OH! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, HARVEY. THE PAPER SAID THERE'S ONLY ONE BILL AT EACH LUCKY ADDRESS!
TELEPHONE

WITHIN MINUTES THE HORDES OF TREASURE-HUNTERS HAVE EMPTIED OUT OF THE BUILDING..
YOU SEE, JAMIE-BOY? FOR A SMALL INVESTMENT, WE PROTECT OUR--AH--$ 250,000 OPERATION! TELL THE BOYS WE'RE STILL ON SCHEDULE!
WIZARD, YOU'RE A WONDER!
276

AT STEVE WILSON'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS OFFICE, LATER THAT NIGHT..
WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU, STEVE?
THIS, LORELE!--A MR. HOSKINS FOUND A $1000 BILL AT 276 MAIN STREET--BUT I DIDN'T HIDE ANY OF THE BILLS THERE!

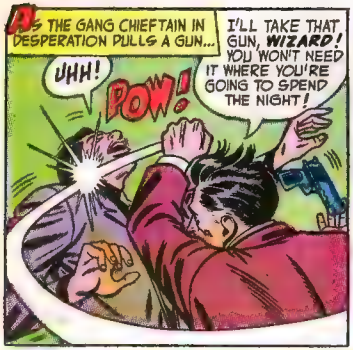

IT MUST BE AN AMAZING COINCIDENCE! SOMEONE ELSE MUST HAVE LOST A $1000 BILL IN THE LOBBY OF THAT BUILDING!
I WONDER--

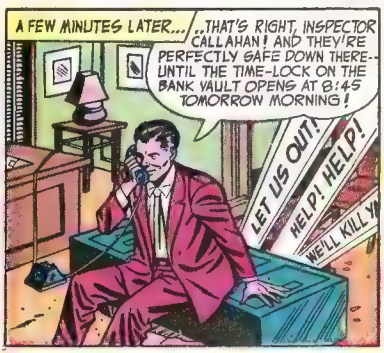
ON HIS WAY HOME, STEVE'S RAZOR-SHARP NEWSPAPERMAN'S INSTINCT DRAWS HIM LIKE A MAGNET TO 276 MAIN STREET...
NOTHING EMPTIER THAN AN OFFICE BUILDING AT NIGHT! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I EXPECTED TO FIND HERE--JUST A FEELING I HAD.. GUESS THERE WAS NOTHING TO IT...
TELEPHONE BOOTH

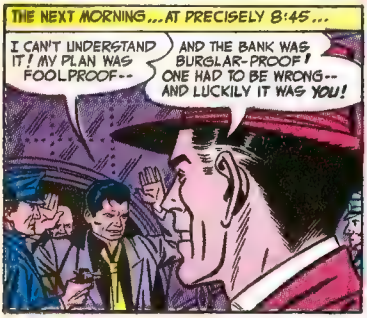
WILSON'S GETTING NOSEY! I DON'T LIKE IT! YOU TWO TAKE CARE OF HIM--BUT NOT HERE! FOLLOW HIM--AND PICK A GOOD SPOT!
CHECK, WIZARD! COME ON, NITRO!
AS THE UNSUSPECTING NEWSHAWK CROSSES THROUGH MID-TOWN PARK ON THE WAY TO HIS APARTMENT...
I CAN USE SOME SHUT-EYE--THAT CONTEST HAS KEPT ME HOPPING!
THIS LOOKS LIKE AN IDEAL SPOT, NITRO!
THE NEXT MOMENT, TWO BURLY FIGURES SPRING AT THE LONE NEWSMAN...
OKAY! SLUG HIM, NITRO!
HEY! WHA--
WATCH THE BIRDIE, NEWSHAWK!
BUT AS NITRO'S BILLY DESCENDS, STEVE'S BRAWNY ARMS PIN THE HANDS OF THE THUG HOLDING HIM--AS SIMULTANEOUSLY HE BENDS FORWARD...
I--I HIT KAYO!
THUD!
YOU HIT HIM--AND I HIT YOU! A FAIR EXCHANGE!
UGG!
BOK!
BEFORE STEVE CAN THROW A FOLLOW-UP BLOW, THE THUG LEAPS IN WITH FLYING FISTS AND...
THEY DON'T CALL ME NITRO FOR NOTHING, WILSON! I'M DYNAMITE!
SPLAT!

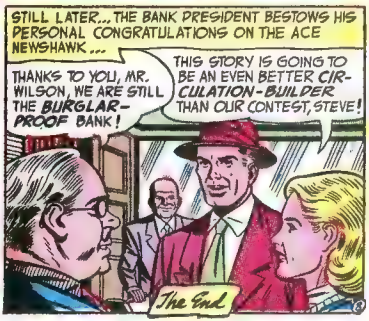
HE SANK LIKE A STONE, NITRO!
C'MON, LET'S GET OUTA HERE! BUT DON'T RUN--IT MIGHT DRAW ATTENTION TO US!
AS THE CROOKS MOVE AWAY FROM THE SCENE...
WHEW--I ALMOST DIDN'T COME UP!.. WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT? THEY DIDN'T TRY TO ROB ME...
HURRYING TO THE NEAREST EXIT, STEVE SUDDENLY SPOTS HIS ASSAILANTS...
THERE THEY GO! I'LL CATCH UP TO THEM--AND FIND OUT THE ANSWER!
MOMENTS LATER, AS THE AROUSED NEWSHAWK ROUNDS A CORNER...
THAT'S FUNNY--DID THEY GO INTO ONE OF THESE DOORWAYS? BUT THERE ARE NO HOUSES OR HOTELS ON THIS STREET...NO PLACE ANYONE WOULD GO AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT!... WAIT A SECOND!
BIG TOWN IND
BAN
276 MAIN STREET! IT COULD BE A COINCIDENCE THAT I FIND MYSELF BACK HERE...BUT IN ANY EVENT, I'M TAKING ANOTHER LOOK INSIDE THIS BUILDING!
276
MEANWHILE, IN THE DENTIST'S OFFICE, BEHIND CAREFULLY DRAWN BLINDS...
WE TOOK CARE OF WILSON--BUT GOOD!
SPARE ME THE SORDID DETAILS, KAYO! STAND BY TO RELIEVE JAMIE ON THE DRILL!

1:42...FIVE MORE MINUTES, JAMIE--THEN HOLD THE DRILL TILL THE NIGHT COP COMPLETES HIS ROUNDS!
WIZARD, LOOK--WE'RE BREAKING THROUGH!
RRRRRRR
YOU'RE RIGHT! QUICK--WIDEN THAT HOLE! KAYO, YOU GET READY TO POP DOWN IN THERE!
AFTER SEVERAL MORE MINUTES OF FEVERISH ACTIVITY...
...AND THEY SAID THIS BANK COULDN'T BE ROBBED!...THE DOOR--WHAT--?
CHECK, WIZARD! I'M INSIDE THE VAULT!
WILSON! GRAB HIM!
HAD TO TIME THIS JUST RIGHT--ONE OF THEM DOWN IN THAT HOLE SHORTENS THE ODDS AGAINST ME...
GRRASSH!
TWO DOWN IN THE HOLE! THE ODDS ARE GETTING BETTER EVERY SECOND!
JAMIE! YOU GET HIM!
ZOK!
YOU ALL WANTED TO GET DOWN INTO THAT VAULT, DIDN'T YOU?


AS THE GANG CHIEFTAIN IN DESPERATION PULLS A GUN...
I'LL TAKE THAT GUN, WIZARD! YOU WON'T NEED IT WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND THE NIGHT!
UHH!
POW!


A FEW MINUTES LATER...
..THAT'S RIGHT, INSPECTOR CALLAHAN! AND THEY'RE PERFECTLY SAFE DOWN THERE--UNTIL THE TIME-LOCK ON THE BANK VAULT OPENS AT 8:45 TOMORROW MORNING!
LET US OUT!
HELP! HELP!
WE'LL KILL YO


THE NEXT MORNING...AT PRECISELY 8:45...
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! MY PLAN WAS FOOLPROOF--
AND THE BANK WAS BURGLAR-PROOF! ONE HAD TO BE WRONG--AND LUCKILY IT WAS YOU!

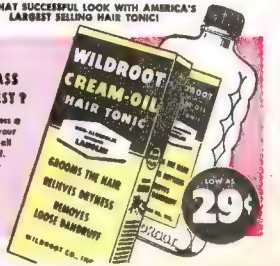

STILL LATER... THE BANK PRESIDENT BESTOWS HIS PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS ON THE ACE NEWSHAWK...
THANKS TO YOU, MR. WILSON, WE ARE STILL THE BURGLAR-PROOF BANK!
THIS STORY IS GOING TO BE AN EVEN BETTER CIRCULATION-BUILDER THAN OUR CONTEST, STEVE!
The End

ADVERTISEMENT

GET THAT SUCCESSFUL LOOK WITH AMERICA'S LARGEST SELLING HAIR TONIC!

CAN YOUR SCALP PASS THE FINGERNAIL TEST?

Don't give dandruff and dryness a chance to ruin the looks of your hair. Keep it neat and natural all day with Wildroot Cream-Oil. Made with the heart of Lanolin, so much like the natural oil of your skin! It's America's largest selling hair tonic ...by far!



HEY KIDS! Bike back to school on the best!

ALL THE WAY AROUND
Schwinn Bikes
BEAT 'EM ALL...
FOR BEAUTY, ZIP, EVERYTHING!
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SCHWINN PHANTOM
Flashing... bright with chrome! Famous Schwinn spring fork. Automatic stop and taillight. Built-in horn and Fenderlite. Lots more features.
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Please rush me free color catalog of newest Schwinn Lightweight and Balloon-tired bikes.

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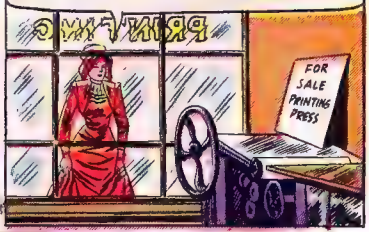
HEADLINE HEROINES: Anne Royall

A PENNILESS WIDOW OF A REVOLUTIONARY WAR GENERAL, ANNE ROYALL WENT TO WASHINGTON TO LOBBY FOR A PENSION...

SENATOR, THE CONGRESS IS DUTY-BOUND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR UNFORTUNATE WOMEN LIKE MYSELF...

REBUFFED IN HER EFFORTS, ANNE HAD TO FIND A WAY TO MAKE A LIVING...

I KNOW! I'LL PRINT A NEWS SHEET--IF I CAN GET THAT STORE-OWNER TO SELL ME A PRINTING PRESS ON CREDIT...



KNOWING NOTHING ABOUT THE MECHANICS OF PRINTING, SHE HIRED A PROFESSIONAL PRINTER AND TWO "PRINTER'S DEVILS" FROM AN ORPHANAGE...

WE'LL USE MY KITCHEN AS OUR PRINTING PLANT. NOW, GENTLEMEN, LET US GO TO PRESS!

IN 1831, HER FOUR-PAGED PAPER, *PAUL PRY*, CAUSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL...

I LIKE THE PAPER'S MOTTO: "NO PARTY, THE WELFARE AND HAPPINESS OF OUR COUNTRY IS OUR POLITICS!"

ANNE'S OUTSTANDING JOURNALISTIC FEAT WAS AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT JOHN QUINCY ADAMS. ONE DAY, AS SHE WAS WALKING ALONG THE BANK OF THE POTOMAC RIVER...

THAT'S PRESIDENT ADAMS--SWIMMING IN THE POTOMAC--ALONE! IT GIVES ME AN IDEA...!

SITTING ON THE PRESIDENT'S CLOTHES LEFT ON THE RIVER BANK, ANNE REFUSED TO BUDGE UNTIL THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE GRANTED HER AN INTERVIEW ON THE SPOT...

YOU WIN, MISS ROYALL! WHAT IS IT YOU WISH TO ASK ME?

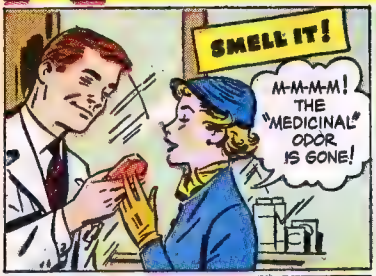
ADVERTISEMENT

Thanks to PURALIN, exclusive new purifying ingredient–

THE "MEDICINAL" ODOR IS GONE!

Completely New Lifebuoy Has New Pleasing Fragrance

Stops "B.O." before it starts!



Puralin Makes Lifebuoy So Fragrant—So Effective!

Thanks to Puralin the "medicinal" odor is gone, yet New Lifebuoy gives you super-effective protection against body odor. Your daily Lifebuoy bath stops "B.O." before it starts—and that's a money-back guarantee. It deodorizes best because it removes the "invisible dirt" that causes "B.O."

It's the only *complete* soap at a popular price! You get top "B.O." protection, new pleasing fragrance, and complexion soap skin care, all at no extra cost! Get new *fragrant* Lifebuoy today!

The whole family loves New Fragrant Lifebuoy!

AS A FEARLESS, CRIME-FIGHTING NEWSPAPERMAN, STEVE WILSON HAS MADE MANY ENEMIES--AMONG THE CRIMINALS HE HELPED SEND TO JAIL! OFTEN THESE JAIL-BOUND MEN HAVE VOWED EMPTY THREATS OF VENGEANCE--WHICH STEVE HAS IGNORED! BUT WHEN "KILLER" SEARS--THE MOST RUTHLESS GUNMAN BIG TOWN EVER KNEW--ESCAPED FROM PRISON, THEN THE VALIANT NEWSHAWK REALIZED THAT THIS TIME HE HAD A DREADFUL AND INEXORABLE

APPOINTMENT WITH DEATH!

IN STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE, THE CRACK NEWSHAWK GETS A PHONE CALL FROM INSPECTOR CALLAHAN AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
STEVE? I SUPPOSE YOU'VE HEARD--KILLER SEARS BROKE OUT OF PRISON! I'M OFFERING YOU POLICE PROTECTION...
THANKS, INSPECTOR--BUT YOUR MEN HAVE PLENTY TO DO WITHOUT PLAYING NURSEMAID FOR ME!
LORELEI! YOU STILL HERE? HOW ABOUT YOUR ASSIGNMENT?
I--I HATE TO LEAVE YOU ALONE AT A TIME LIKE THIS, STEVE!
YOU MEAN--YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT KILLER SEARS' THREAT TO GET ME? LOOK, GAL--YOU'VE GOT A JOB TO DO! GET OUT TO THE PENITENTIARY--AND FIND OUT ALL ABOUT SEARS' BREAK!
WORKING LATE, STEVE BECOMES AWARE AT LENGTH THAT HE IS ALONE IN THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS BUILDING...
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS SO LATE!...AND STILL NO SIGN OF SEARS! HE'D BE FOOLISH TO RISK CAPTURE AGAIN JUST TO CARRY OUT HIS THREAT TO KILL ME...
THEN...SUDDENLY...STARTLINGLY...
KILLER SEARS!
DIDN'T THINK I WOULD MAKE IT HERE SO SOON, DID YOU, WILSON? DON'T MOVE--THIS GUN'S CARRYING A BULLET WITH YOUR NAME ON IT!
RELAX, WILSON! YOU AIN'T GONNA GET IT NOW! THAT WOULD BE TOO QUICK AN' TOO EASY! YOU'RE GONNA SWEAT IT OUT! YOU'LL GET IT--BUT YOU WON'T KNOW WHERE OR WHEN, SEE?
CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY...
2

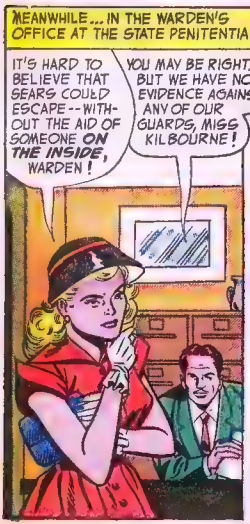
EXPLODING INTO ACTION, THE ACE NEWSHAWK CATAPULTS HIS STURDY FRAME ACROSS THE ROOM..
I NEVER DID LIKE THE IDEA OF A LINGERING DEATH, KILLER! LET'S SETTLE THIS MATTER RIGHT HERE AND NOW!
UHH!
7372
HUH? WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIS FACE?
KRAK!
POW!
A RUBBEROID MASK! HE'S NOT KILLER SEARS! BUT--WHAT IN THUNDER CAN THIS MEAN? WHY DID HE POSE AS SEARS--AND THREATEN ME?
LATER... AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
HE'S MACK MATSON--ONE OF SEARS' MOB, STEVE! BUT HE'S CLAMMED UP--WON'T SAY WHY HE IMPERSONATED KILLER SEARS!
WELL, IF HE DECIDES TO TALK, INSPECTOR--LET ME KNOW!
IT MIGHT MAKE A GOOD STORY! SO LONG, INSPECTOR!
WHAT A GUY! EVEN ATTEMPTS ON HIS OWN LIFE ARE JUST NEWS STORIES TO STEVE WILSON!
AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS-MAN'S APARTMENT-HOTEL... SHORTLY AFTER...
I THINK I'LL TAKE A DIP IN THE POOL BEFORE I TURN IN, LARRY!
I'LL SWITCH ON THE LIGHTS FOR YOU, MR. WILSON!

SOON AFTER... AS STEVE RELAXES IN THE CRYSTAL-CLEAR WATER OF THE POOL...
CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT! WHY SHOULD MATSON POSE AS SEARS -- WHEN SEARS IS LOOSE AND CAPABLE OF GUNNING ME HIMSELF--AS HE VOWED HE'D DO AT HIS TRIAL? IT DOESN'T ADD UP!
SUDDENLY A GRIM SHAPE APPEARS ABOVE THE LONE SWIMMER...
SEARS!?
I COULD KILL YOU NOW, WILSON! I COULD PULL THIS TRIGGER--AND BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF RIGHT THIS SECOND!
BUT I'M GONNA WAIT, SEE? AN' LET YOU HAVE IT AT A MOMENT WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT! HA HA! AIN'T I A CARD?
VERY AMUSING! KIND OF A GAME BETWEEN THE TWO OF US, EH?
WITH A QUICK THRUST OF HIS OPEN PALM, THE CANNY NEWSHAWK SENDS A WAVE OF WATER CASCADING OVER THE POOL EDGE...
BUT WHAT IF I REFUSE TO PLAY THE ROLE OF A SITTING DUCK?
WAGH!
EXTENDING HIS ARM OUT OF THE POOL, STEVE GRABS THE GUNMAN'S HAND...
SUPPOSE I START MAKING THE RULES OF OUR GAME--
LET GO! OR I'LL KILL YOU NOW, WILSON!
MAINTAINING HIS HOLD ON HIS HATE-FILLED FOE, STEVE PULLS HIM INTO THE POOL--AND UNDER WATER...
I'LL JUST GIVE HIM ANOTHER FEW SECONDS OF THIS--THEN HAUL HIM OUT...
SPLASH!!

THEN, ON THE EDGE OF THE POOL...
UGHH
GREAT SCOTT! ANOTHER RUBBEROID MASK! THIS ISN'T SEARS EITHER!

THE NEXT DAY... AS STEVE CONFERS WITH HIS BOSS--J. J. McGRATH, THE PUBLISHER OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
...AND THE SECOND IMPOSTOR WAS LEGGY NUGENT--ANOTHER OF SEARS' MOBSTERS, MR. McGRATH!
BUT--YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHY THE GANGSTERS ARE PULLING THIS STUNT, STEVE?

NO, SIR! ALL I KNOW IS--THEY'RE MAKING US SOME FINE STORIES!
ILLUSTRATED PRESS
2ND MASQUERADING GUNMAN FAILS TO KILL STEVE WILSON!


MEANWHILE... IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE AT THE STATE PENITENTIARY...
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SEARS COULD ESCAPE--WITHOUT THE AID OF SOMEONE ON THE INSIDE, WARDEN!
YOU MAY BE RIGHT... BUT WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE AGAINST ANY OF OUR GUARDS, MISS KILBOURNE!

LATER... AFTER LORELEI HAS BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO VISIT CERTAIN AREAS OF THE HUGE PRISON...
SEARS COULD HAVE GOTTEN OUT IN ONE OF THE FOOD TRUCKS THAT COME TO THIS KITCHEN! BUT THE TRUCKS ARE ALL EXAMINED CAREFULLY... WHAT ARE ALL THESE CRATES, I WONDER...?

SUDDENLY... FROM ONE OF THE BIG CRATES, A HAND SHOOTS OUT IN A SERPENT-SWIFT MOVE...
UHH--
KEEP QUIET, MISS! DON'T MAKE A SOUND--IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU!

LATER...IN A RESTAURANT NEAR THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS BUILDING...
FUNNY...LORELEI WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET ME HERE FOR LUNCH--BUT SHE'S ALREADY AN HOUR LATE!
PHONE CALL FOR YOU IN THE FIRST BOOTH, MR. WILSON!
TELEPHONE
THIS MUST BE SHE NOW...
HEH,HEH. AND YOU WILL BE TOO, WILSON...IN ABOUT THREE SECONDS!
HELLO! THAT'S ODD! THIS WIRE'S DEAD!
THIS IS IT, WILSON... THE MOMENT YOU LEAST EXPECTED ME!
CAN'T JUST STAY IN HERE AND LET HIM RIDDLE ME!
IMPROVISING A DEFENSE ON THE SPOT, STEVE YANKS THE DOOR OF THE PHONE BOOTH SHARPLY INWARD, DEFLECTING HIS FOE'S GUN BARREL...
THERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T EXPECT!
BAM!
RUNNING FOR IT! BUT HE WON'T GET AWAY FROM ME!
OUTSIDE THE RESTAURANT--A MOMENT LATER...
GONE! HE SEEMED TO JUST VANISH--HUH? ANOTHER RUBBEROID MASK! HE MUST HAVE TORN THIS OFF TO MAKE GOOD HIS ESCAPE--AND IT MEANS THAT HE WASN'T SEARS EITHER!
I THINK I'M FINALLY GETTING ON TO THIS GRUESOME LITTLE GAME--AND IF MY THEORY IS CORRECT--IT EXPLAINS WHY LORELEI DIDN'T MEET ME HERE--WHY SHE COULDN'T MEET ME!

SOON AFTER... IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE AT THE STATE PRISON...

SHE DIDN'T? YOU'RE SURE MISS KILBOURNE NEVER CHECKED OUT THROUGH THE GATE, GUARD?

I THOUGHT SO! IT MEANS SHE'S STILL INSIDE THESE WALLS--SOMEWHERE!

I'LL SOUND THE ALARM, STEVE! MY MEN WILL SEARCH EVERY INCH OF THIS PRISON!

GOOD! AND I'LL DO A BIT OF SEARCHING MYSELF! WE'VE GOT TO FIND HER!

SHORTLY... AT THE REAR ENTRANCE TO THE BIG PRISON KITCHEN...

LORELEI WAS SEEN NEAR HERE... BUT THE CONVICT KITCHEN HELP WON'T ADMIT THEY SAW HER INSIDE! HM... I WONDER IF I CAN'T TRICK THEM INTO TELLING WHATEVER THEY MAY KNOW?... IT'S WORTH A TRY!

MOMENTS LATER... IN A CLUTTERED AND BOX-STREWN CORNER OF THE KITCHEN...

KILLER? WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' OUT HERE? WANNA GET UG ALL IN SOLITARY? GET BACK IN THAT CRATE!

UH--OKAY! THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO KNOW!

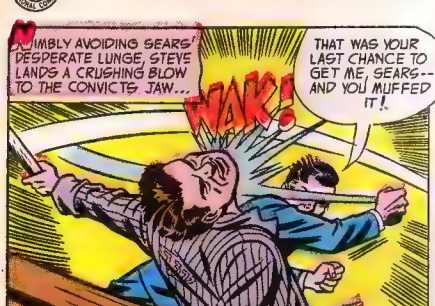
AS THE KITCHEN TRUSTEE TURNS AWAY HASTILY, A FIGURE RISES FROM BEHIND THE PILE OF BOXES...

THIS RUBBEROID MASK SURE CAME IN HANDY! SO SEARS HAS BEEN HIDING IN THAT CRATE! NO TIME TO SUMMON THE GUARDS NOW... LORELEI'S LIFE COULD BE HANGING IN THE BALANCE! GOT TO ACT ALONE--FAST!

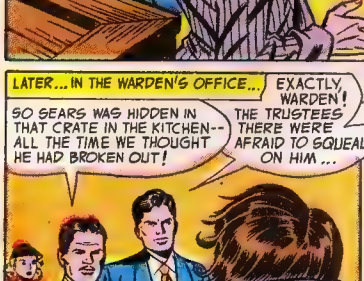
WITH CATLIKE SWIFTNESS, THE ACE NEWSMAN BOUNDS TO THE BIG CRATE... AND YANKS HARD... PULLING OFF AN ENTIRE SIDE OF IT...

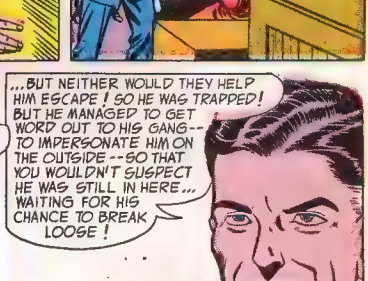
LOOKS LIKE I'VE CAUGHT UP WITH YOU--!

BUT IT'S STILL GONNA END WITH MY KILLIN' YOU, WILSON!


NIMBLY AVOIDING SEARS' DESPERATE LUNGE, STEVE LANDS A CRUSHING BLOW TO THE CONVICT'S JAW...
WAK!
THAT WAS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO GET ME, SEARS--AND YOU MUFFED IT!

THEN, AFTER A HURRIED SEARCH THROUGH THE KITCHEN...
LORRY! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
FINE, STEVE! SEARS TIED ME UP AND PILED THESE BOXES AROUND ME! I GUESS NO ONE EVEN KNEW I WAS HERE!


LATER... IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...
EXACTLY, WARDEN! THE TRUSTEES THERE WERE AFRAID TO SQUEAL ON HIM...
SO SEARS WAS HIDDEN IN THAT CRATE IN THE KITCHEN--ALL THE TIME WE THOUGHT HE HAD BROKEN OUT!


...BUT NEITHER WOULD THEY HELP HIM ESCAPE! SO HE WAS TRAPPED! BUT HE MANAGED TO GET WORD OUT TO HIS GANG--TO IMPERSONATE HIM ON THE OUTSIDE--SO THAT YOU WOULDN'T SUSPECT HE WAS STILL IN HERE... WAITING FOR HIS CHANCE TO BREAK LOOSE!

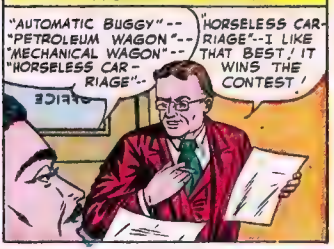
I SEE! AND THAT EXPLAINS THE LITTLE "GAME" HIS GANG PLAYED WITH YOU, STEVE--STALLING FOR TIME!
SURE--SEARS WANTED TO KILL ME HIMSELF--BUT HIS PLAN AND HIS ESCAPE--BACKFIRED ON HIM!

THAT AFTERNOON--TWO MEMBERS OF THE "WORKING PRESS" GET TO WORK AGAIN...
MAKES A GOOD HEADLINE, EH, LORRY?
YES--BUT I SHUDDER WHEN I THINK WHAT THE HEADLINE WOULD HAVE SAID IF SEARS SUCCEEDED IN CARRYING OUT HIS THREAT!
ILLUSTRATED PRESS
KILLER SEARS PLOT FAILS! GANG BEHIND BARS!
The End

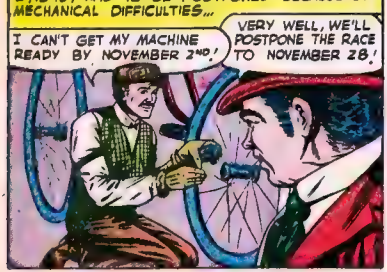
PROMOTION STUNT

ON 1895, H.H. KOHLSAAT, PUBLISHER OF THE CHICAGO *TIMES-HERALD*, PROMOTED THE FIRST "HORSELESS CARRIAGE RACE"--A CIRCULATION AND PROMOTION STUNT THAT MADE NEWSPAPER HISTORY...

BECAUSE THERE WASN'T EVEN A NAME FOR THE NEW-FANGLED DEVICE, THE NEWSPAPER CONDUCTED A CONTEST TO NAME THE SELF-PROPELLED VEHICLE...



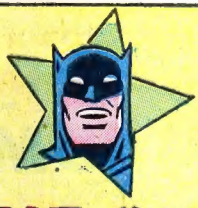
THE START OF THE RACE, SET FOR NOVEMBER 2, 1895, HAD TO BE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES...

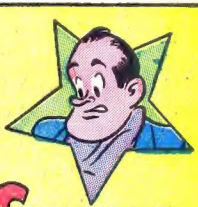


AS THE ELEVEN CONTESTANTS LINED UP ON THE DAY OF THE RACE, MISFORTUNE AGAIN DOGGED THEIR STEPS, AS A SLEET AND SNOW STORM HIT THE CITY...

CHEERING CROWDS LINED THE 55-MILE ROUTE AS THE HORSELESS CARRIAGES CHUGGED ALONG THE SNOW-COVERED ROADS...

CHARLES E. DURYEA, WHO WAS LATER TO ACHIEVE FAME AS AN AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURER, "RACED" ACROSS THE FINISH LINE FIRST! THE TIME: ELEVEN HOURS!...





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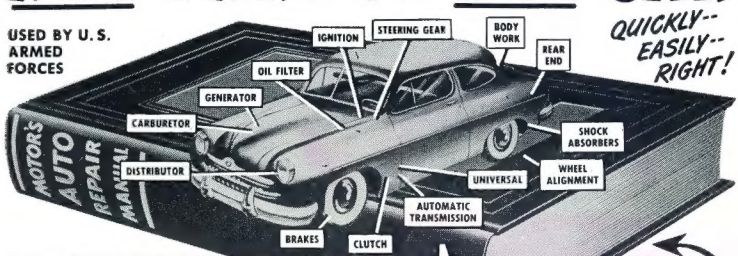

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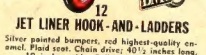

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